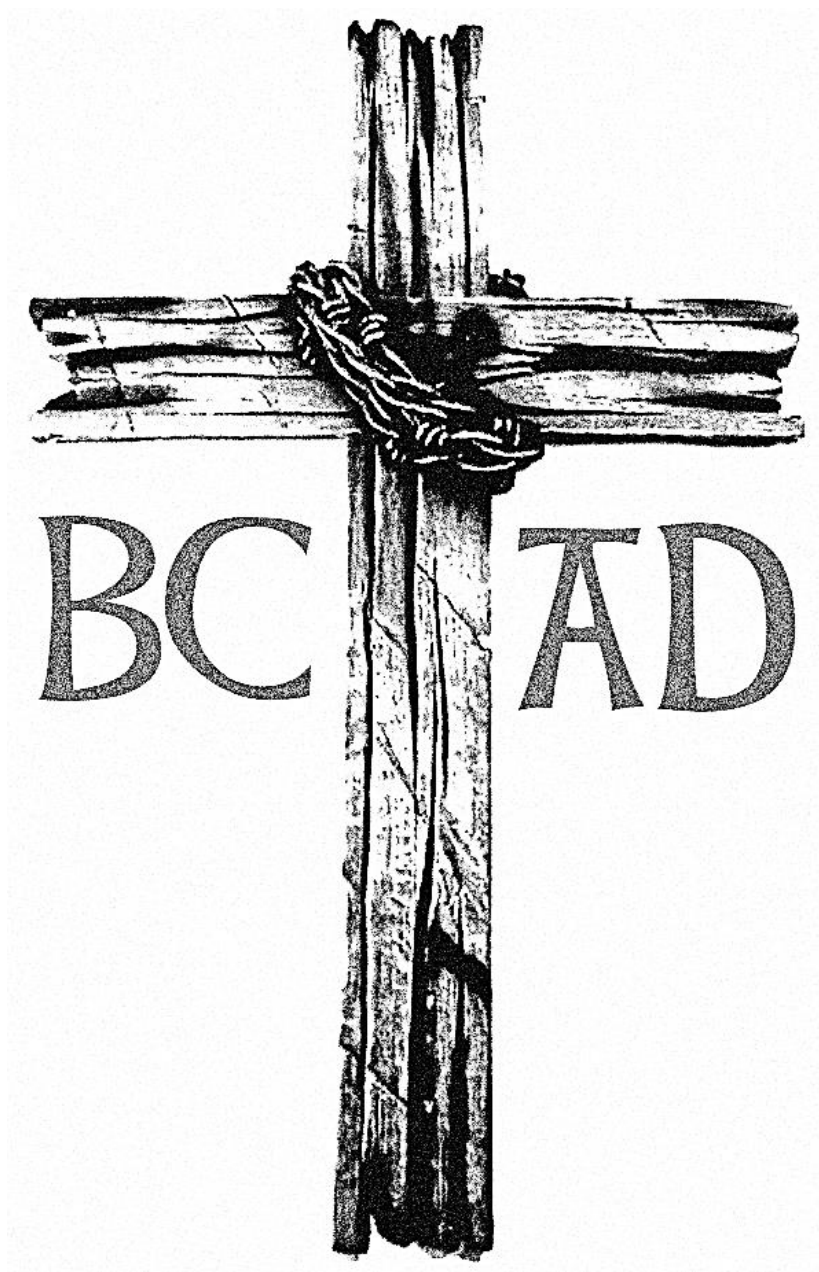


"But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son..." (Gal. 4:4)



*Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh, PA
Sunday, January 9th, AD 2022*

The LORD'S Day

The Ninth Day of January, *in the Year of our Lord* 2022

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!

Sunday School—9:30 AM.



Our studies relate to the question of the Christian's civic responsibilities unto the culture and community where God has placed him. Jer. 29:7: *"Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare."*

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:* *"Bless His Holy Name"* (#8).

Invocation.*

Hymn: *"Come, Thou Almighty King"* (#54).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: Daniel 7:15-28.

Prayer, Praises, & Testimony.

Special Music: Dennis Oliver (*"The Reason for the Season"*).

Announcements.

Hymn: *"All Creatures of our God and King"* (#12; vv. 1-2, 4-5).

Dismissal of Youth for Children's Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: *"ON THE CHRISTIANIZATION OF TIME."*

Closing Hymn:* *"He is Lord"* (#21; 2x's).

Benediction.*

*The Congregation will please arise, if able.

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study—4:00 PM.



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Web: <https://valleygbcarmaghpa.webs.com>

Downloadable audio mp3 messages at archive.org (@reesetpje)

Also check out our YouTube Channel (search "Terry Reese")!

Camp Mantowagan website: <https://www.campmantowagan.com>

Today's Verse for Reflection:

"For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him."—Col. 1:16



Week of Jan. 2-Jan. 8

Sunday School—9; Morning Worship—I9

Midweek—6; Church Offering: \$1,012.⁸⁵

Interesting Facts on the Numbering of Years

- ❖ Historically, there have been alternate methods of dating time other than from the focal point of Christ's Birth (BC/AD).
 - ❖ The **Jewish Calendar** dates time from the Creation of the World (A.M., or *Anno Mundi*), as calculated by Rabbi Moses Maimonides (12th cent. AD). Hence, AD 2022=AM 5782.
 - ❖ The **Islamic Calendar** dates years from the *flight* (Hegira) of Muhammed from Mecca to Medina in AD 622. Thus, time is reckoned **AH** ("in the year of the Hegira") or **BH** ("before the Hegira"). Hence, AD 2022 corresponds to AH 1443.
- ❖ Today's **Common Era** system (BCE/CE) is not the first modern secular attempt to de-Christianize Time. **The radicals of the French Revolution** instituted a national calendar that dated years from the founding of their Republic (thus, AD 1792 was "Year I"). This calendar also instituted a **10-day week**—in defiance of the Divinely instituted 7-day week of Gen. 1 & Ex. 20:8-11. Thus, laborers were expected to work for 9 days before having an off-day! Wisely, Napoleon discarded this inane scheme in 1805.
- ❖ Some speculate that Dan. 7:25 may refer to a disruptive upcoming calendar change made by the **Antichrist** during Tribulation.

On the Christianization of 'Time

By Pastor Terry L. Reese, Valley GBC of Armagh

"But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son..."—Gal. 4:4

Many people have questions regarding the traditional manner in which Time has come to be reckoned and are confused by the variety of designations that are currently associated with the dating of years.

The traditional **BC/AD** convention employed for the dating of years arose when the monk **DIONYSIUS EXIGUUS** (c. 470–c. 544) developed a new system of chronology, numbering years with reference to the Birth of Christ. He did so in the conviction that this unique act of God was the *axis-event*—i.e., *turning point*—of the Ages. Popularized by a great early medieval scholar, the **VENERABLE BEDE** (c. 672–735), and adopted by **EMPEROR CHARLEMAGNE**, this system soon became the standard for all of Christendom—and ultimately, with the dominating influence Western Culture, for most of the rest of the world as well. The term **BC** means "*Before Christ*," whereas the abbreviation **AD** represents the Latin phrase "*anno Domini*," meaning "*in the Year of our Lord*."

Dating time in this manner assumes several **key propositions**:

- 1.) Jesus is the **CHRIST**, or Messiah ("Before **CHRIST**");
- 2.) Jesus is **LORD** ("In the Year of our **LORD**");
- 3.) Jesus' birth is the **central dividing-line of history** that radically separates all that *came-before* from all that *came-after*.

Sadly, in this day-and-age of rabid secularism and advancing political correctness, such a convention has undergone strong challenges in recent years. In recent years, it has become conventional in both domestic and international circles to employ the initials **BCE** ("*Before Common Era*") and **CE** ("*Common Era*"). This less "offensive" designation has now become the standard in many academic, cultural, and media centers throughout the world. News organizations, textbooks, museums—and even some nominal "Christian" groups—have jumped upon the Common Era Bandwagon in an attempt to demonstrate an alleged "cultural sensitivity" and "*de-Christianize*" Time.

Despite the World's best efforts, however, Jesus Christ is *still* God's Messiah, *still* the Sovereign Lord over Time & Eternity, and *still* stands as the Author and Ultimate Purpose behind all things (Col. 1:16)!